Business for Better Transportation (BBT)

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Who is BBT?

- Originated with the Oakland County Business Roundtable -- to address Oakland's congestion problem
- In 2006, grew to include 9 Michigan counties
- In 2007, grew statewide
- Dedicated to addressing Michigan's unfunded road & transit enhancement needs

Who is BBT: Business & Public Sector Leaders

Road Commission members (26 counties):

- Alcona

- Montcalm

- Allegan

- Isabella

- Ionia

- Muskegon

- Barry

- Kalamazoo

- Oakland

- Chippewa

- Kent

- Oceana

- Clinton

- Leelanau

- Ottawa

- Crawford

- Livingston

- Shiawassee

- Genesee

- Macomb

- St. Clair

- Hillsdale

- Mason

- Washtenaw

- Ingham

- Monroe

Others Participating in the Discussion:

- Focus Macomb

- MI Suburbs Alliance

- SEMCOG

- MITA

- SMART

- Michigan Chamber

- Detroit Regional Chamber

- CRAM

- Grand Rapids Chamber

- ACEC

Ann Arbor Chamber

- TRU

-\ MML

- MAC

- Washtenaw Area Transportation Study (WATS)

Oakland County Business Roundtable Transportation Committee

The 3 transportation problems for Michigan:

- Deteriorating road conditions
- Increasing road congestion
- Need for transit improvements & expansion







The Situation:

- Southeast Michigan:
 - \$30 billion in unfunded road needs through 2030 (Source: SEMCOG)
 - \$4.5 billion in unfunded transit needs through 2030 (Source: SEMCOG)
- Michigan sacrifices about \$100 million per year in federal transit funds (source: Michigan Land Use Institute)
- A quality transportation infrastructure
 both roads & transit -- is critical to
 Michigan's economy.

Why do we have a problem?

Per Capita State & Local Expenditures (Michigan's Rank in the Nation)

Expenditures	1964	1974	1984	1988	1992	<u> 2005</u>
Health	5	8	9	3	12	13
Education	11	7	10	7	11	13
Welfare	31	5	3	8	17	34
Roads	43	44	42	44	49	44

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Problem No. 1: Road Condition (Potholes)

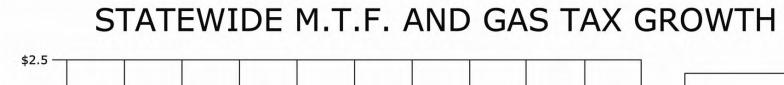


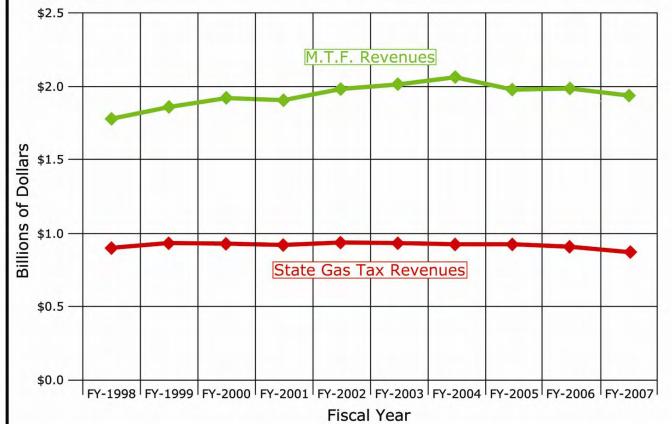




- Michigan's roads are crumbling.
- Asset Management Council says <u>at current</u> <u>investment level, deterioration rate will</u> <u>dramatically increase</u>.
- Where does road repair money come from?
- The Michigan Transportation Fund (MTF).

What's wrong with the MTF?





M.T.F. GROWTH FY-98 = \$1,778,725,081 FY-07 = \$1,968,557,955 Increase: 10.67% Avg Ann Incr: 1.13%

GAS TAX GROWTH
FY-98 = \$900,750,388
FY-07 = \$885,777,066
Decrease: - 1.66%
Avg Ann Decr: - 0.19%

Example: One Road Commission

Operating (MTF) Revenues

Increase, FY1998 - FY2007:

11%

Actual Cost Increases (98-07)

<u>Item</u>	% Increase
Gravel	20%
Asphalt	48%
Salt/plow truck	74%
Plow blades	89%
Sign posts	95%
Guardrail & hardware	113%
Traffic signal cable	140%
Fuel	300% +

Problem No. 2: Road Congestion











The Human Cost:

Increased congestion leads to:

- Increased traffic & pedestrian fatalities & injuries
- Decreased economic development
- Increased air pollution
- More money spent on gas
- Delayed buses due to congestion

BBT's Position on Congestion:

Congestion MUST be reduced to:

- Ensure economic vitality (retain & create jobs)
- Increase global competitiveness
- Enhance quality of life & safety

Problem No. 3: Transit Needs

- Business recruitment & job creation are hampered by Michigan's lack of transportation options.
- Michigan competes with states that have modern public transit systems.
- \$1 invested in transit brings \$6 in related economic activity.
- The CTF formula impedes improvement to transit. More money for one system = less for others.

What's the answer to the road & transit problem?

- Increase federal funding?
- Enact "Drive MI"?
 (Would just address the road condition problem)

Is increased federal funding a solution?

- Oct. 1, '08: Fed. funds could drop 40%.
- Little chance of increasing the fed. gas tax.
- Little chance of decreasing Michigan's donor status
- But, even if we did get more federal money...
- ... Due to the 75/25 split of federal funds (MDOT/locals), increasing federal funding would not make much of a difference to locals.

Bottom Line:

- The Feds aren't going to bail us out.
- We need <u>Drive MI</u> just to <u>maintain</u> the existing system.
- But, we need <u>other tools</u> to <u>ENHANCE</u>
 Michigan's transportation system.
- So, what's the solution?

The Solution:

Create a "self-help"

Transportation Fund

Strategy:

- Create self-help local options
- Funds raised locally
- Used locally
- Defined program
- Countywide or regional

A Flexible Program

- Each county decides <u>if</u> it wants to participate.
- Participating counties select funding tools that meet <u>their needs</u>.
- Funds could be for any transportation enhancement.
- Some counties would use just for roads...

- ...Others may use just for transit.
- Some would use for <u>roads AND</u> <u>transit</u>.
- Each county would "sell" its program to its voters.
- Counties could work together on regional solutions.
- County commissions would place on ballot.

The Program: Proposed Local Funding Options:

- Local-option gas & diesel taxes
 (1 county = 3 cents; 2 counties = up to 5 cents; 3 or more counties = up to 7 cents)
- Local-option vehicle registration fee (up to 20%)
- Local-option license fees
 (\$25 operator, \$35 chauffeur)
- Local-option property transfer fee (up to 0.35%)
- Local-option sales tax (up to 1%)

Consider:

Today:

- 37 states allow local-option sales taxes.
- Michigan does not.
- Michigan ranks in the <u>bottom 10 states</u> in per capita state & local road funding...
- ...And has for the last 40-plus years!

The BBT Proposal is:

An <u>ECONOMIC-REFORM</u> package.

■ A JOB-CREATION package.

A QUALITY OF LIFE and SAFETY package.

The Economics:

Investment in transportation infrastructure:

- Creates good jobs
- That can't be exported
- Stimulates economic development
- Helps Michigan <u>compete with other</u>
 <u>states</u>
- Saves lives by making transportation safer

We need your support!

- Please recommend that the legislature enact the BBT enabling legislation.
- Remember: The enabling legislation <u>does</u> <u>not</u> impose a tax on Michigan residents or businesses –
 - It just provides communities with additional funding tools.

2 additional tools BBT is working on:

- Private Investment Infrastructure Funding (PIIF) proposal
 - Creates a new funding mechanism via private sector investment in transportation improvements
 - Another <u>new</u> mechanism not currently available
- Public-Private Partnerships
 - Allows private sector to build and/or operate public infrastructure.
 - Potential revenue source for transportation agencies.
 - Endorsed by the Federal Highway Administration.
 - In use in: Illinois, Indiana, Florida & elsewhere.
 - Michigan does not have this enabling legislation.

